



CELEBRATING THE FIRST DECADE OF ASPEN COMICS!

EXECUTIVE EXTINCTION:

EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT

ASSASSINS

MAR 2013 9A \$3.99 USA

VINCE HERNANDEZ
JORDAN GUNDERSON
CHARLIE MOK
TEODORO GONZALEZ
JOHN FIED

BLOCKADE
ENTERTAINMENT



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GUNDERSON ★



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MRANO



The story so far...

The Executive Assistants converged at Lotus's mansion in order to find ways to reach Mazutsu, yet instead encountered their former ally, Rose, who now works for him. Unable to painfully coerce her into revealing the whereabouts of her master, the girls are instead ambushed by an all new Executive Assistant-Ivy, and now even more questions remain unanswered...

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: ASSASSINS

EXECUTIVE EXTINCTION!

PART 4 OF 5

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PRECISION
ATTACK. ONLY AIMED
AT THIS APARTMENT.
MAZUTSU WILL PAY
FOR THIS!



HOW DO
YOU... UNGH...
KNOW IT'S
HIM?



APACHE STEALTH
F@*KING HELICOPTERS,
ROSE. WHO **ELSE** DO YOU
KNOW HAS ACCESS TO
THAT TYPE OF
WEAPONRY?

OPEN YOUR
EYES. YOU ARE
WORKING FOR A
SOCIOPATH!

HEY--
I DON'T KNOW
WHO YOU THINK
YOU ARE,
BUT--

--I AM THE PERSON
WHO JUST SAVED YOUR
F@*KING LIFE-- TWICE.
AND I AM **TELLING** YOU THAT
MAZUTSU IS RESPONSIBLE
FOR THAT ATTACK
BACK THERE.



LOOK, IT IS ME
HE WANTS DEAD. AND
HE MOST LIKELY DOES
NOT EVEN KNOW YOU
WERE WITH ME, SO...



...GO BACK
TO HIM. BEFORE
THE COPS GET HERE.
PRETEND LIKE YOU KNOW
NOTHING. IT JUST MAY
SAVE YOUR LIFE. BUT,
ROSE-- YOU **CANNOT**
TRUST HIM.

DO NOT FORGET
WHO SAVED YOUR LIFE THIS DAY--
AND WHAT WE ARE CAPABLE OF IF YOU
CHOOSE TO STOP ISOLATING YOURSELF.
HAVING POWERFUL ALLIES IS THE ONLY WAY
TO SURVIVE IN THESE TIMES. YOUR FRIEND
IRIS UNDERSTANDS THIS-- NOW **YOU**
MUST DO THE SAME. COME FIND ME
WHEN YOU ARE READY.



TOKYO, JAPAN.

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

MY FORMER EMPLOYER SENT ME HERE ONCE TO BREAK UP AN ILLEGAL AVIATION RING MOONLIGHTING AS A DRUG EMPIRE. THE YAKUZA WERE SELLING STOLEN PASSENGER PLANE PARTS TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER ON THE SIDE. GOOD MONEY IN IT. YOU TWO SHOULD LOOK INTO IT IF YOU EVER NEED QUICK CASH.

ONE CRIME AT A TIME, ORCHID.



THIS SHOULD DO JUST FINE.

I MISS MY TOWNHOUSE IN LONDON, ALREADY.

SERIOUSLY, LILY, WHAT ARE OUR ODDS OF GETTING TO MAZUTSU? EVEN IF WE SET UP IN THE SAME CITY, HOW WILL WE EVER GET CLOSE TO HIM? I'M ASSUMING HE'S PAID FOR SEVERAL LAYERS OF PRIVATIZED SECURITY?

NO...

...HE OWNS HIS OWN SECURITY FIRM.

NO LADIES, THIS IS GONNA REQUIRE A LOT MORE FINESSE-- AND MAYBE A MIRACLE.





YOU ARE DEAD TO ME...



...OR AT LEAST YOU WERE. DO I NEED TO OFFER YOU A LESSON IN COMMUNICATION?

IT'S YOU WHO SHOULD BE OFFERING THE EXPLANATION.

COME AGAIN?



I WAS NEARLY KILLED. BLOWN APART BY YOUR ATTACK. YOU WANT TO TELL ME YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT?

... WHAT...?

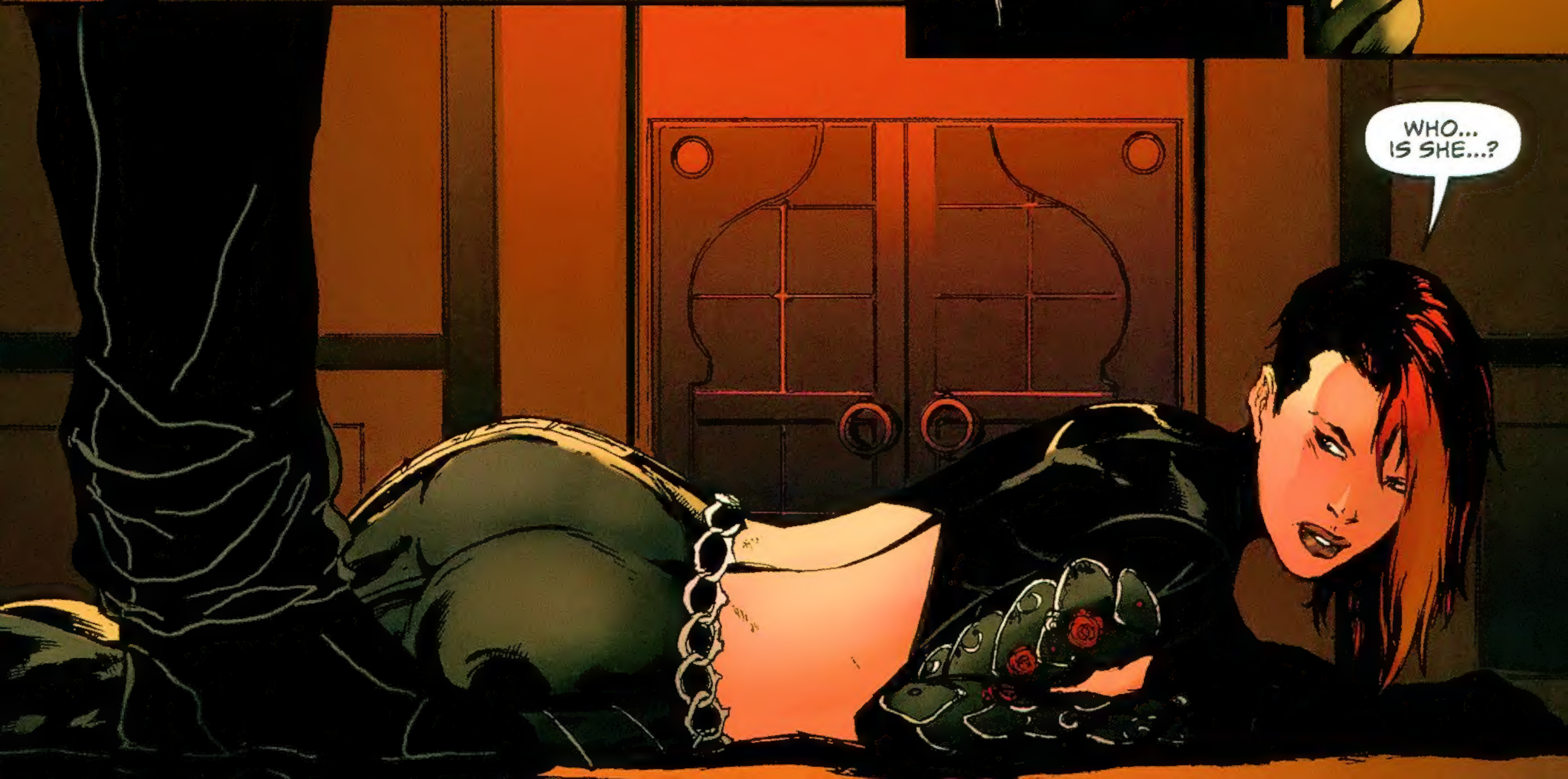


DON'T ACT SURPRISED. I KNOW YOU ORDERED THE ATTACK ON IVY'S APARTMENT. IT HAS YOUR NAME WRITTEN ALL OVER IT. ONLY I WAS THERE, TOO!

THE BITCH SAVED MY LIFE AND THEN YOU ALMOST TOOK IT!

IVY... SHE WHAT?

I TOLD YOU, SHE--



ISRAEL. TEN YEARS EARLIER.

"IT IS NOT WHO SHE IS, BUT WHAT SHE WAS."

"I WAS YOUNGER THEN, MORE FOOLISH TO THE REALITIES OF THE WORLD..."



"...YET NO LESS POWERFUL."



"THE ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCE WAS ONE OF MY BEST CUSTOMERS, ALTHOUGH OUR TRANSACTIONS WERE ALWAYS COVERT."

"FOR GOVERNMENTS, IT IS MORE PRUDENT TO KEEP THE PURCHASES OF YOUR ARSENAL SECRET..."



"...LEST THEIR CITIZENS FIND OUT THE TRUE ORIGIN OF THEIR FREEDOM AND PROTECTION."

"HOWEVER, IT WAS NOT THE ONLY SECRET THEY WERE KEEPING."



"I KNEW WHAT SHE WAS RIGHT AWAY."

"AND WITH MY CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES, IT WAS NOT HARD TO PERSUADE THE ISRAELI LIEUTENANT TO OUTSOURCE HIS INVESTMENT."

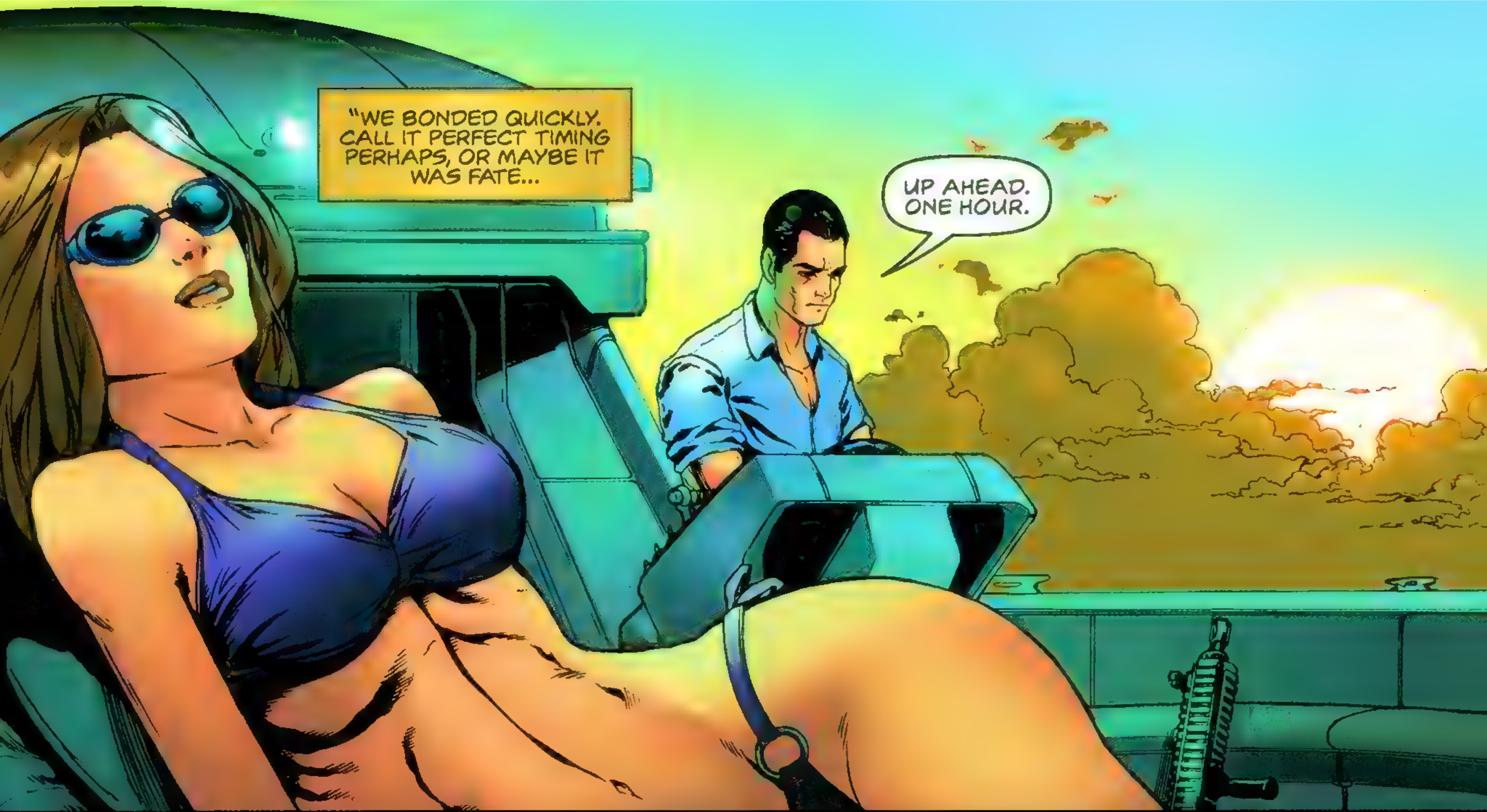
YOU REQUESTED TO SEE ME?

YES. THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME. THEY TELL ME YOUR NAME IS IVY.

AND WHO WOULD "THEY" BE?

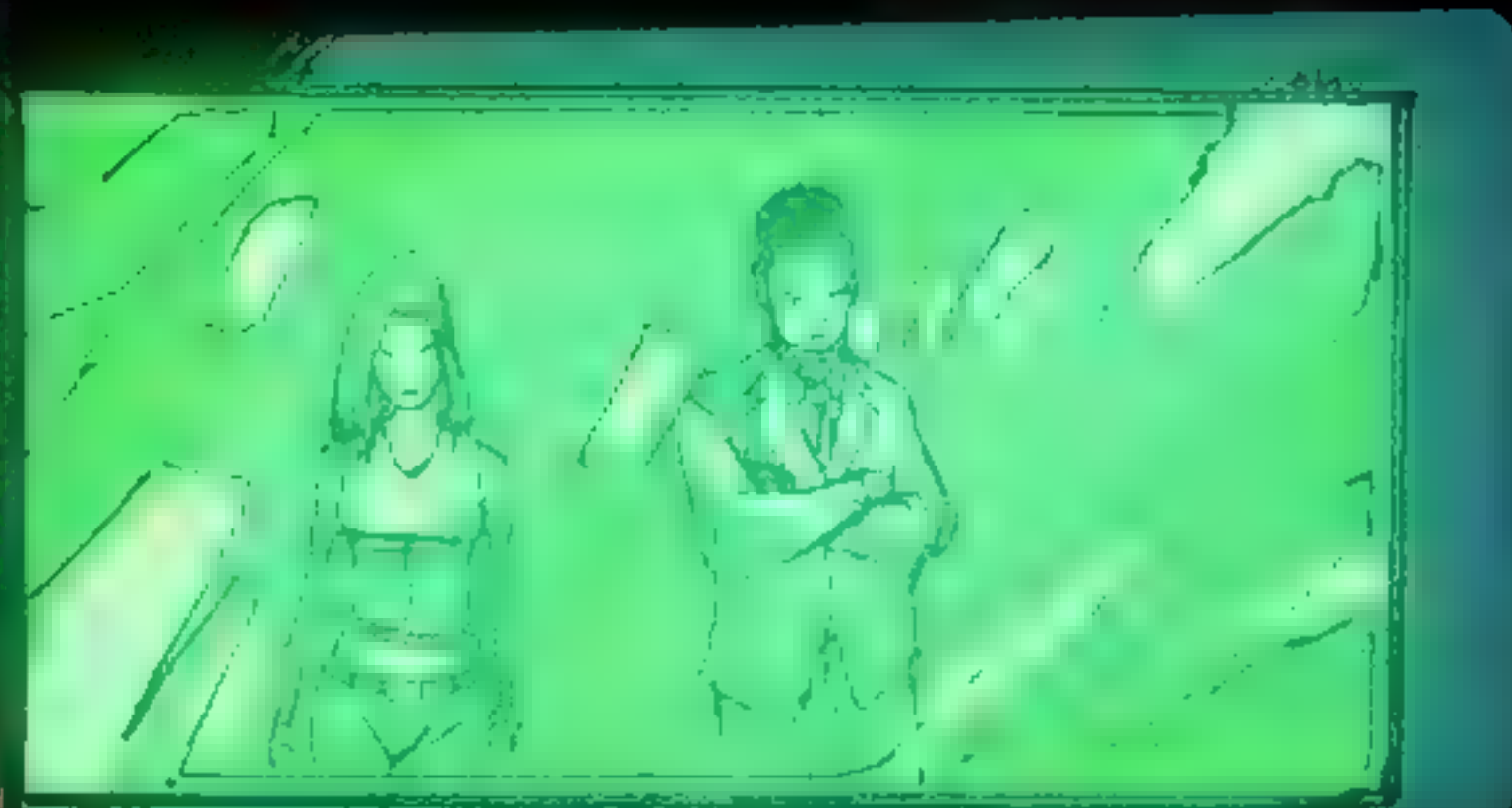
ALL OF THEM. YOUR PEOPLE. THEY ARE EASILY SWAYED BY THE PERSUASION OF MONEY.





"I SHOWED
HER THE INNER
DETAILS OF MY
LIFE'S WORK.


"AND WHAT OUR
FUTURE HELD.



"HOWEVER, CERTAIN ASPECTS
OF MY LIFE I SHOULD HAVE
KEPT SHROUDED. THINGS I
SHOULD HAVE KNOWN SHE
WOULD NOT BE READY FOR.

"WE WERE ON THE CUSP
ON TELEPATHIC CONTROL--
OF SOMETHING SPECIAL.
WORLD-CHANGING.

"BUT, SHE
WAS NOT
READY."



"AND, LIKE EVERYONE,
TRUE NEEDS ALWAYS RISE
TO THE SURFACE. WEALTH AND
POWER WAS MY DRAW FOR HER,
I ALWAYS KNEW THIS. YET THERE
WERE OTHERS WHO FOUND
THIS WEAKNESS IN HER,
AS WELL...



"...AND
EXPLOITED
IT.

"MY COMPETITORS USED HER WEAKNESS
FOR WEALTH TO THEIR ADVANTAGE. THEY
SOUGHT TO STEAL MY LIVELIHOOD. WHAT
WE SACRIFICED TO CREATE.

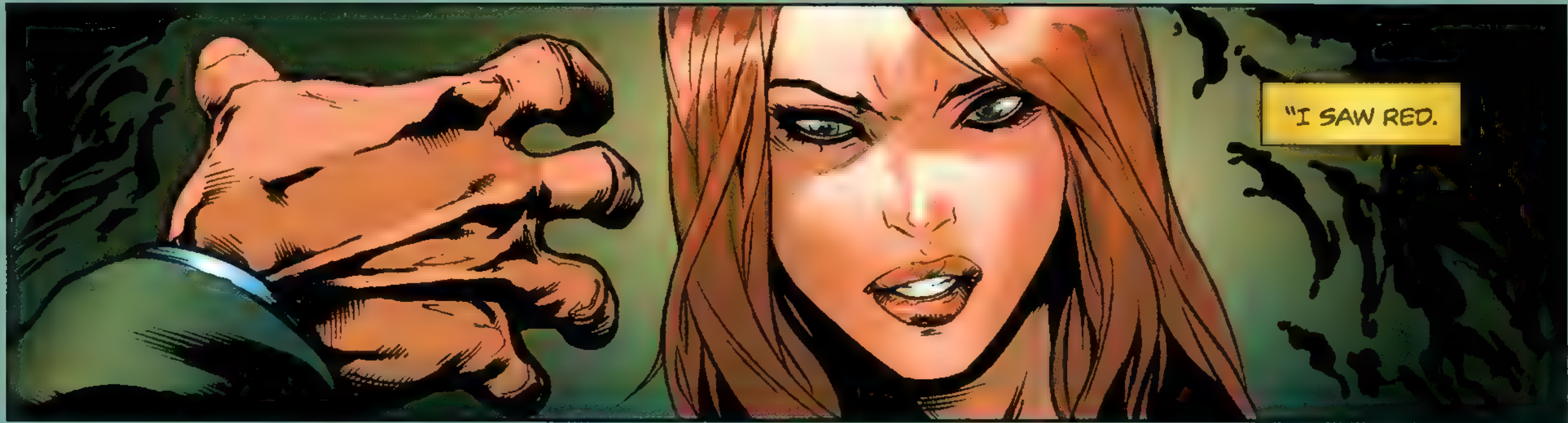


"I WAS SHATTERED."

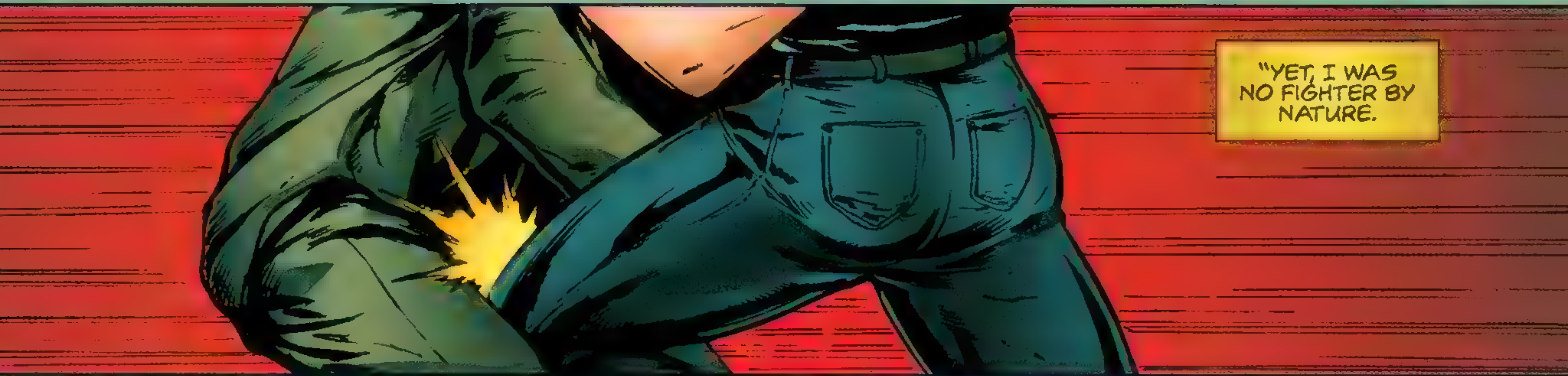


"WHEN
CONFRONTED,
SHE DID NOT
DENY IT."

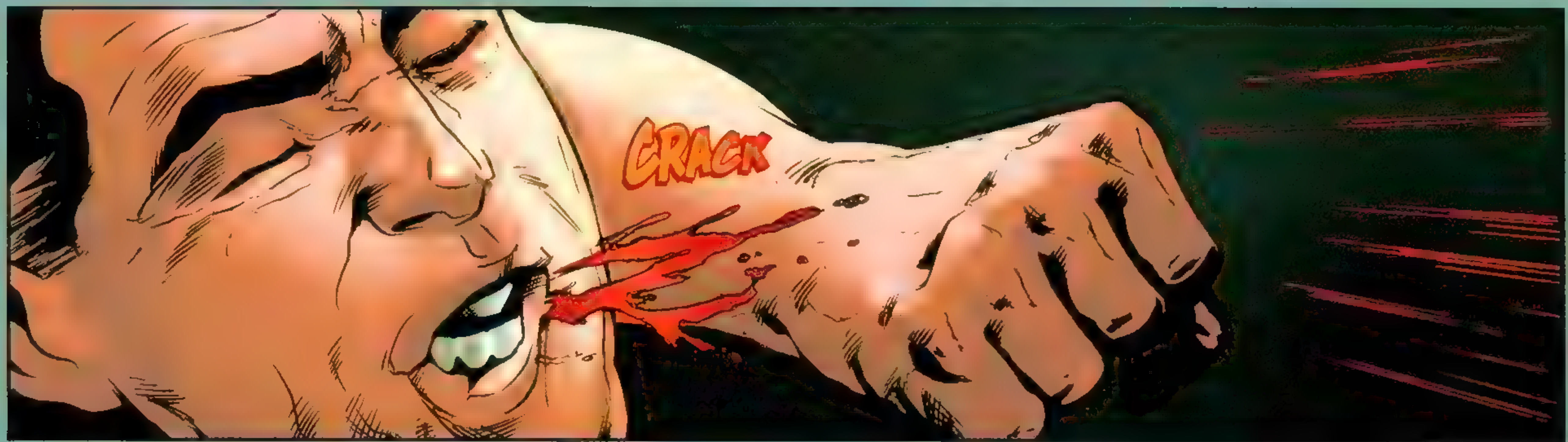
YOU KNEW
WHAT I WAS WHEN
YOU MET ME. I HAVE
NOT CHANGED, IT IS
YOU WHO HAS LOST
HIS WAY!



"I SAW RED."



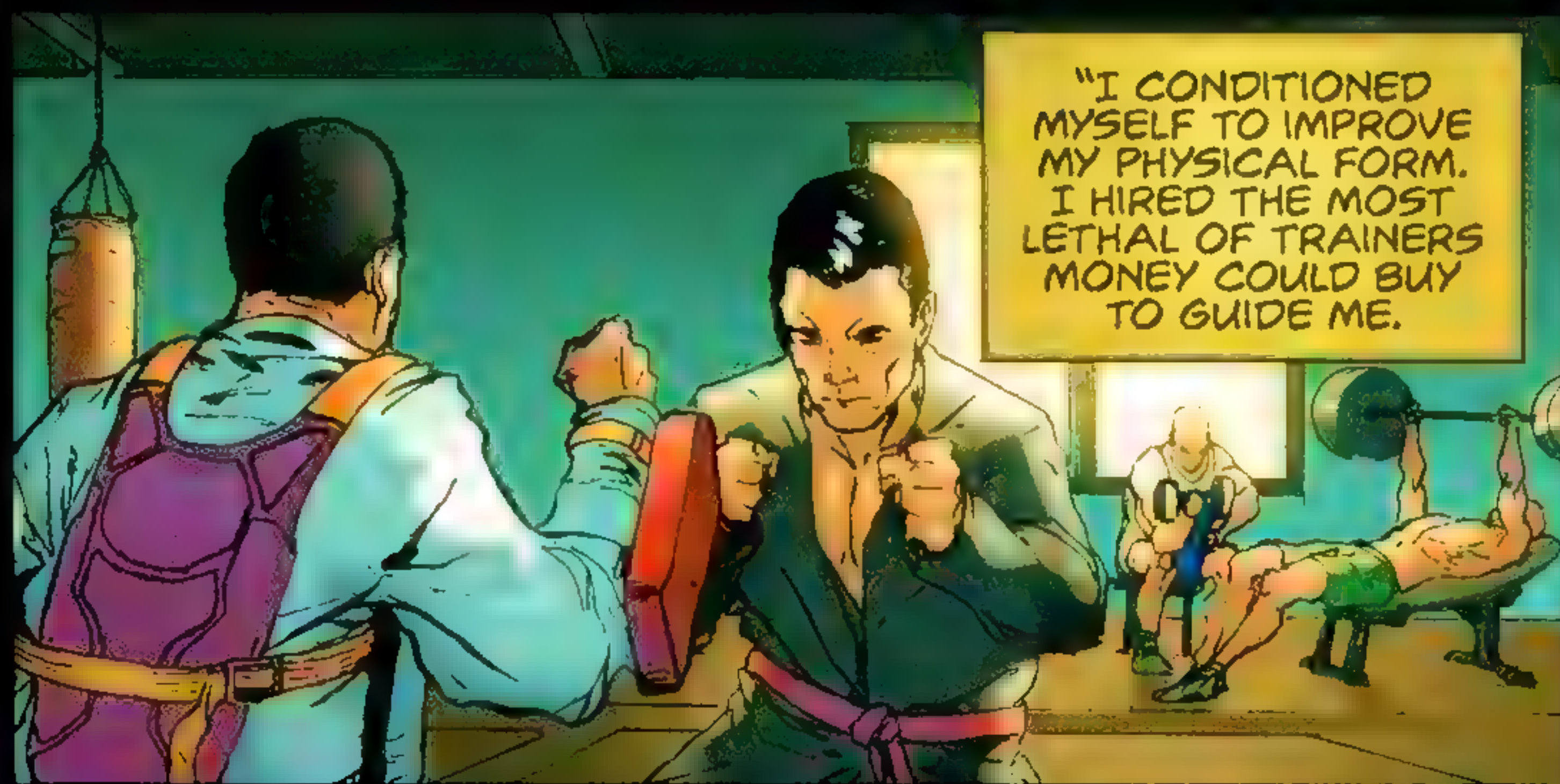
"YET, I WAS
NO FIGHTER BY
NATURE."



"SHE KNEW AS
MUCH. SHE LEFT
ME THERE... IN
PIECES."



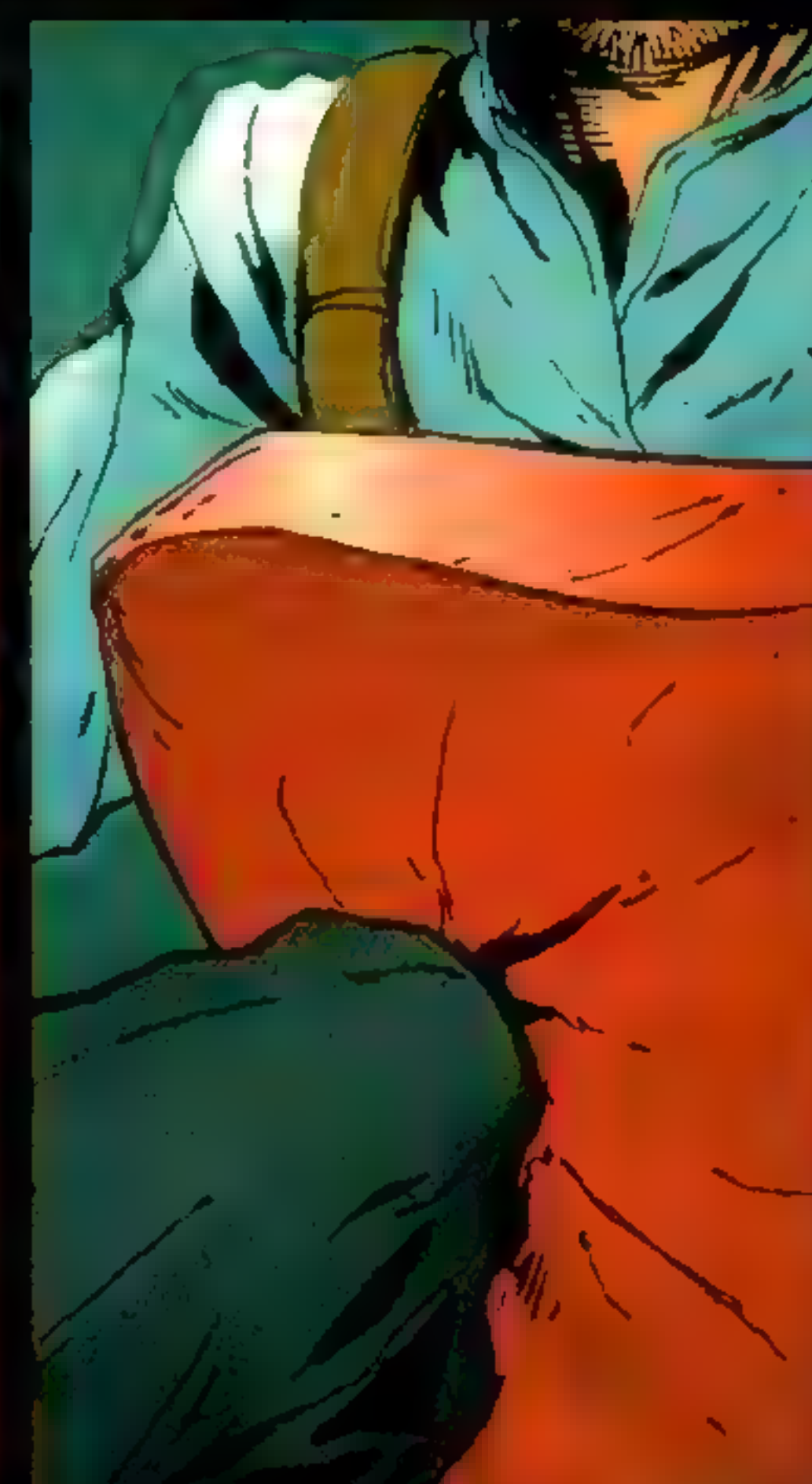
"I MADE A VOW TO MYSELF THAT DAY--- THAT SHE WOULD BE THE LAST PERSON TO EVER SEE ME IN SUCH A LIGHT.



"I CONDITIONED MYSELF TO IMPROVE MY PHYSICAL FORM. I HIRED THE MOST LETHAL OF TRAINERS MONEY COULD BUY TO GUIDE ME.



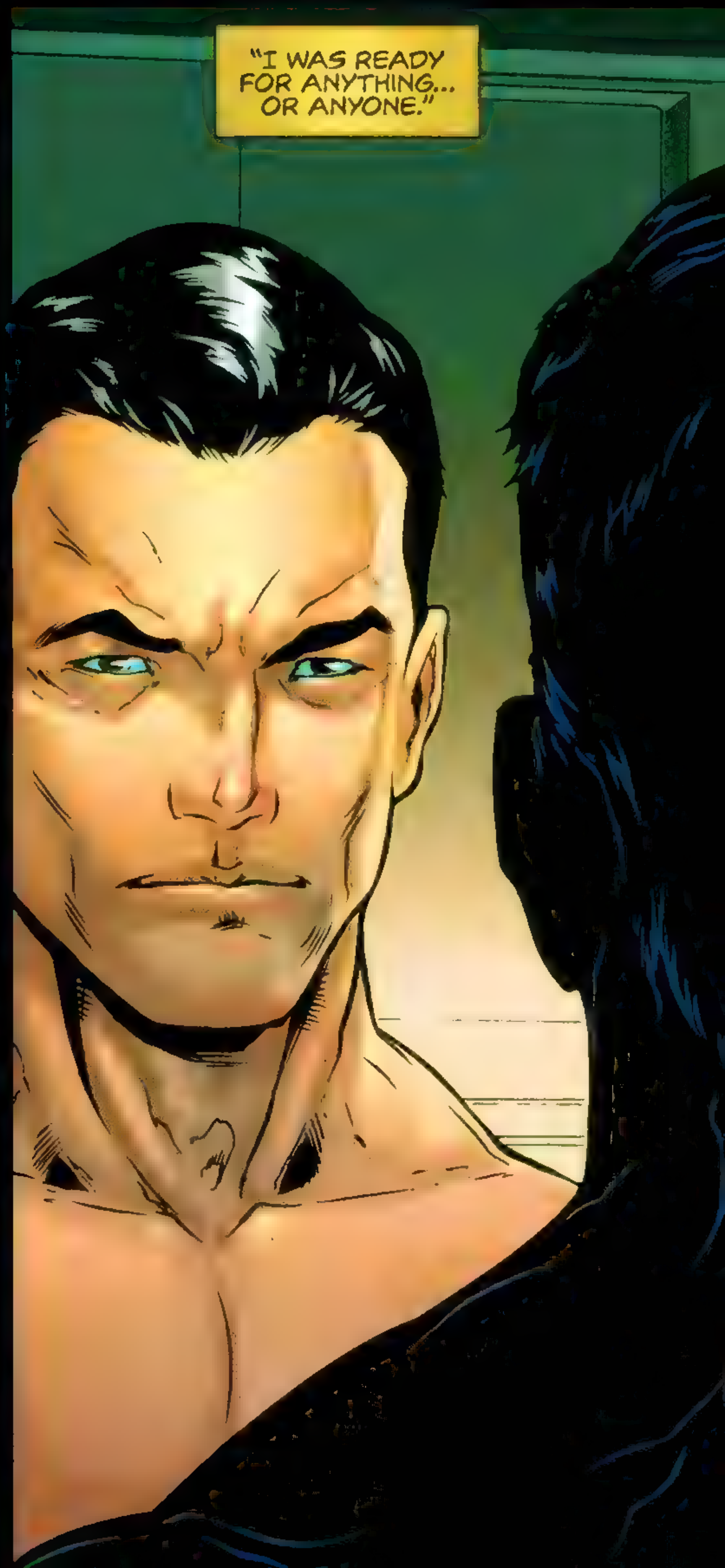
"TEACH ME HOW TO SURVIVE.



"THEY TAUGHT ME NOT ONLY HOW TO PROTECT MYSELF BUT ALSO HOW TO BELIEVE IN MYSELF.



"IN RETURN, I TAUGHT THEM OF THE HARSH REALITIES OF OUR WORLD. OF WHAT MY PRIVATE LIFE MUST ENTAIL.



"I WAS READY FOR ANYTHING... OR ANYONE."



EVER SINCE,
SHE HAS BECOME MY
OBSESSION. ONLY NOW I
DO NOT SEEK HER LOVE--
BUT HER BLOOD. YET, SHE
HAS REMAINED OUT
OF REACH.

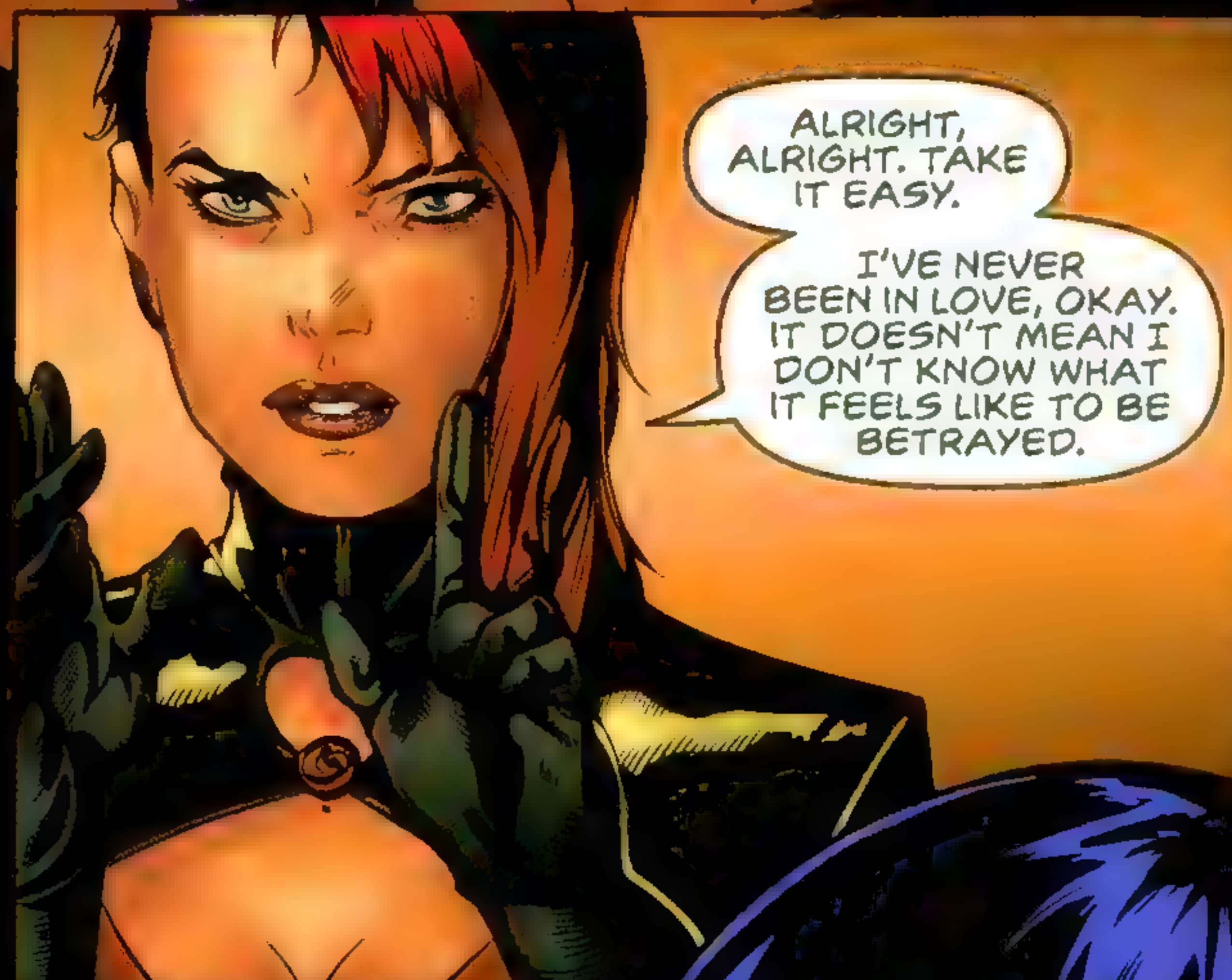
IS THAT
WHY YOU'RE
DOING ALL THIS?
REVENGE?

IT'S MORE
COMPLICATED
THAN THAT.

DOESN'T
SEEM THAT
WAY.



WHAT DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT LOVE?!
WHO HAVE YOU EVER
FELT FOR BESIDES
YOURSELF?!



ALRIGHT,
ALRIGHT. TAKE
IT EASY.

I'VE NEVER
BEEN IN LOVE, OKAY.
IT DOESN'T MEAN I
DON'T KNOW WHAT
IT FEELS LIKE TO BE
BETRAYED.



YOU EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTS, SO
KNOWLEDGEABLE IN THE
REALITIES OF THE WORLD,
YET SO SHELTERED FROM
ITS MOST CARNAL
EMOTIONS.

I WANT
TO RID MY BUSINESS
OF THE NUISANCE OF
YOUR KIND. YET, HER--
I WANT TO SEE HER
FEEL PAIN.



THE NEXT DAY.

FACE IT... WE DON'T HAVE A CLUE HOW TO FIND HIM, DO WE?

I HAVE A FEW IDEAS BUT THAT'S ALL THEY ARE.

GREAT, I'M GLAD WE FLEW ALL THIS WAY WITHOUT A PLAN.

IT'S NEVER STOPPED ME BEFORE. YOU NEED TO LEARN TO IMPROVISE.

NO, I NEED TO FIND OUT WHY MY MIND IS STILL F@*KED. THEN I CAN WORRY ABOUT IMPROV.

--IS WORK ON YOUR OPERATIONAL SECURITY.

LADIES, WE NEED TO FOCUS ON--

--WHAT YOU NEED TO DO...

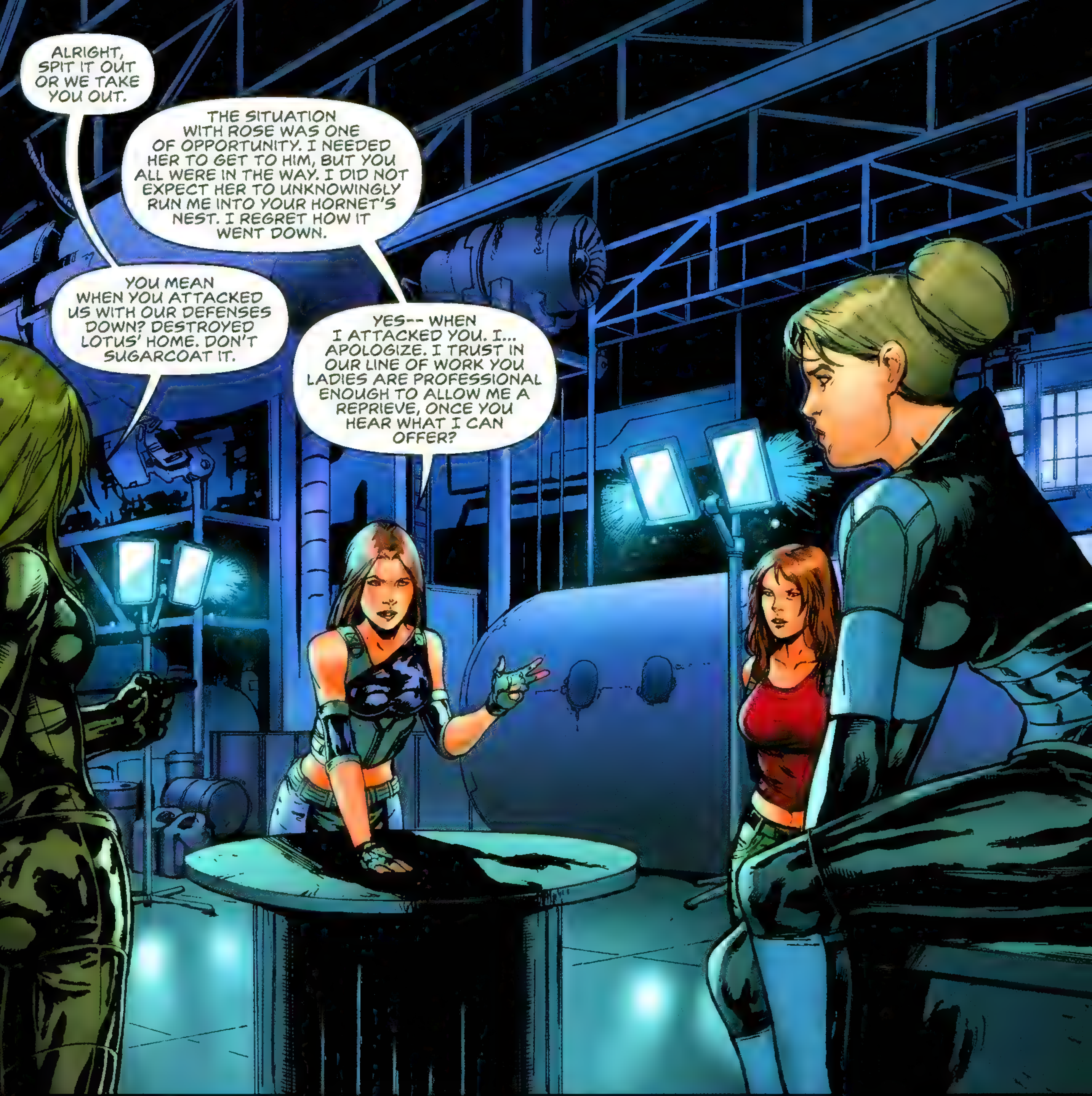
ONE MORE STEP AND YOU'RE A F@*KING DEAD WOMAN! HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE, IT'S LOCKED DOWN LIKE A F@*KING VAULT!?

RELAX, HOT HEAD. I DIDN'T COME LOOKING FOR ACTION. I CAME TO OFFER SOME ASSISTANCE. AND FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS, I CAME AT THE RIGHT TIME.

AND WHY SHOULD WE TRUST YOU, CONSIDERING THE FIRST TIME WE MET YOU WEREN'T SO PLEASANT?

BITCH, YOU BROKE MY HAND!

BECAUSE... NOBODY WANTS MAZUTSU DEAD MORE THAN ME.



ALRIGHT, SPIT IT OUT OR WE TAKE YOU OUT.

THE SITUATION WITH ROSE WAS ONE OF OPPORTUNITY. I NEEDED HER TO GET TO HIM, BUT YOU ALL WERE IN THE WAY. I DID NOT EXPECT HER TO UNKNOWINGLY RUN ME INTO YOUR HORNET'S NEST. I REGRET HOW IT WENT DOWN.

YOU MEAN WHEN YOU ATTACKED US WITH OUR DEFENSES DOWN? DESTROYED LOTUS' HOME. DON'T SUGARCOAT IT.

YES-- WHEN I ATTACKED YOU. I... APOLOGIZE. I TRUST IN OUR LINE OF WORK YOU LADIES ARE PROFESSIONAL ENOUGH TO ALLOW ME A REPRIEVE, ONCE YOU HEAR WHAT I CAN OFFER?

AND WHY WOULD WE BE SO FORGIVING?

BECAUSE I CAN TELL YOU WHERE MAZUTSU IS.

WHEN I TOOK ROSE, I ALSO LEFT SOMETHING WITH HER-- OR RATHER, ON HER.

WELL PLAYED. BUT, FIRST TELL ME... WHY DO YOU HATE HIM AS MUCH AS US?

IT'S A LONG STORY.



HE LIKES TO FANCY HIMSELF A HISTORIAN, AS IF HIS INHERENT KNOWLEDGE OF THE ANCIENT CUSTOMS MAKES HIS MISDEEDS ANY LESS HONORABLE.

SO THEY HAVE TAKEN UP RESIDENCE IN A BUDDHIST TEMPLE, ONE OF THE LAST REMAINING IN SHINJUKU.

YET, THE LEVEL OF PROTECTION I DARE SAY IS ABOVE OUR COMBINED LEVEL OF EXPERTISE. IT'S JUST A REALITY.

NEVER STOPPED ME BEFORE.

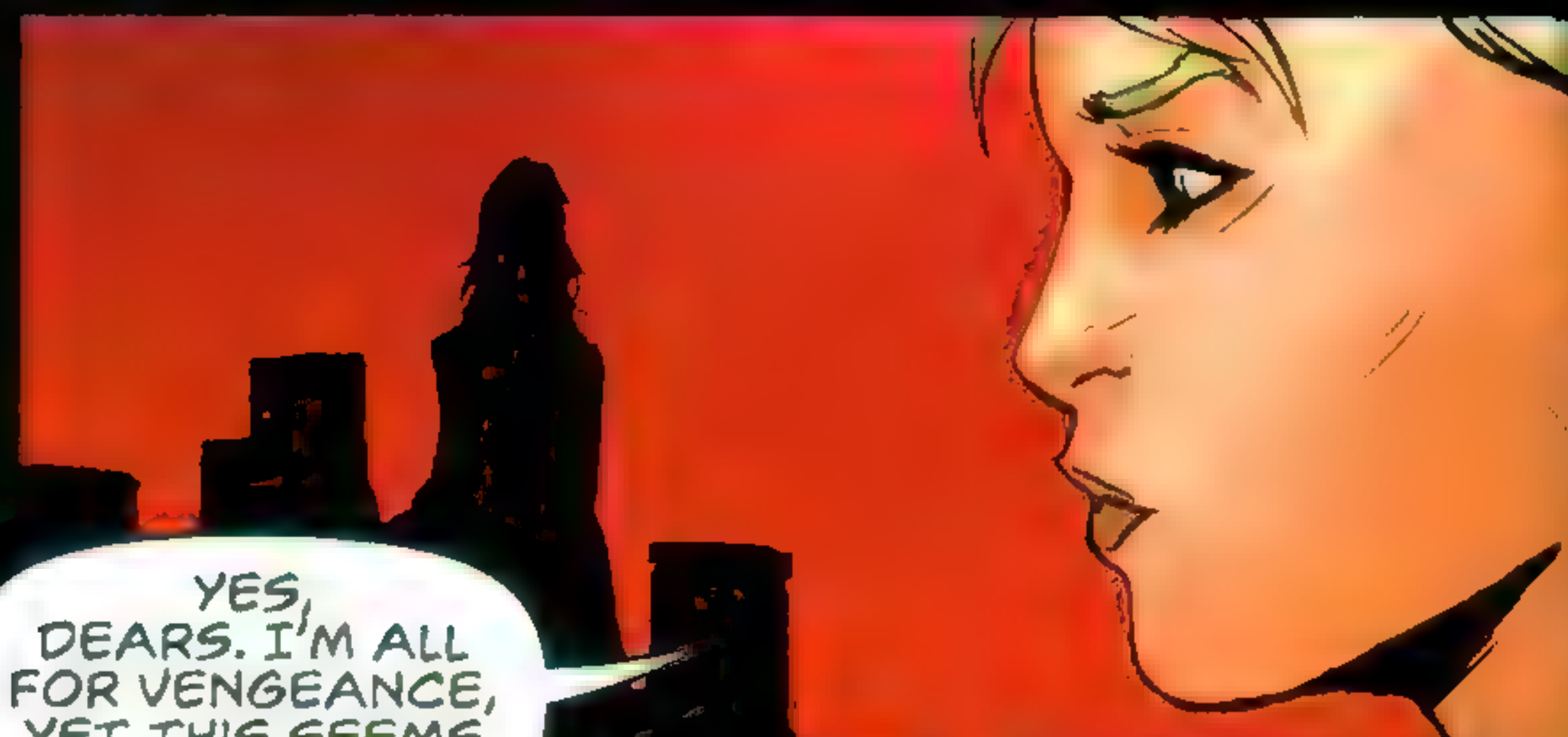


NO, LILY. THIS IS DIFFERENT. THIS IS HIS LIVELIHOOD-- WHAT DRIVES HIM. HE WANTS YOU TO COME TO HIM.

WELL, I WOULDN'T WANT TO LET HIM DOWN.



YOU ARE SUICIDAL.



YES, DEARS. I'M ALL FOR VENGEANCE, YET THIS SEEMS FOOLISH.

SHE'S RIGHT LILY. THIS IS OVER NOW.





I'M SORRY--
I DIDN'T WANT IT TO
END LIKE THIS. BUT... HE'S
THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN
HELP ME RIGHT MY MIND.
HE'S THE ONLY ONE
WITH ANSWERS.

ORCHID...
WHAT ARE
YOU...?

YOU KNOW
WHAT I'M SAYING,
LILY. IT'S HAPPENED
TO YOU BEFORE. WE
ALL KNOW TRUST IS
A LUXURY WE CAN'T
AFFORD.



WELL,
THIS I DID NOT
EXPECT.

SHE'S RIGHT.
I SHOULD'VE
KNOWN BETTER
THAN TO TRUST
HER. *SHE* CAME
TO ME.



ORCHID,
YOU DON'T HAVE
TO DO THIS. WE'LL
FIND A WAY--

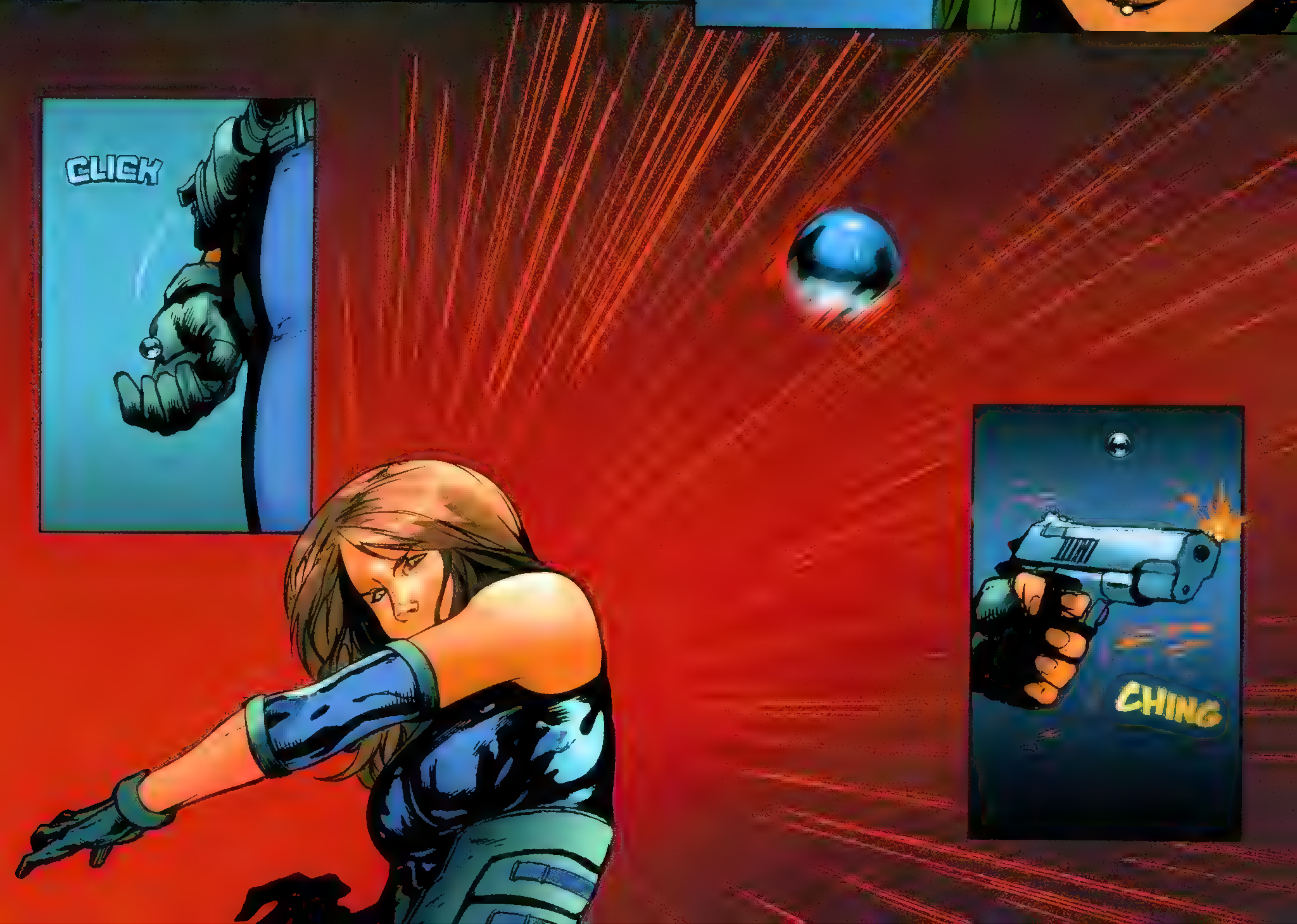
--SAVE IT. HE
OFFERED ME A WAY
OUT. I TOOK IT. IF YOU'VE
LIVED INSIDE MY MIND AS
I HAVE LATELY, YOU'D
UNDERSTAND. I
NEED THIS.



THEN *SHUT*
YOUR F@*KING
TRAP AND GET
IT OVER WITH!



CLICK



CHING





THE EXECUTIVE EXTINCTION EVENT CONTINUES!

Story by **DAVID WOHL**
Pencils & Inks by **ALEX LEI**
Colors by **SIYA OUM**

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT #4



EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS BATTLE ROYALE!

Aspen's Inter-Series Ten Part Event
"EXECUTIVE EXTINCTION" Continues!

EXECUTIVE EXTINCTION CHECKLIST

PART ONE

- ☒ EA: Assassins #6
- ☒ EA: Iris (vol.3) #1

PART TWO

- ☒ EA: Assassins #7
- ☒ EA: Iris (vol.3) #2

PART THREE

- ☒ EA: Assassins #8
- ☒ EA: Iris (vol.3) #3

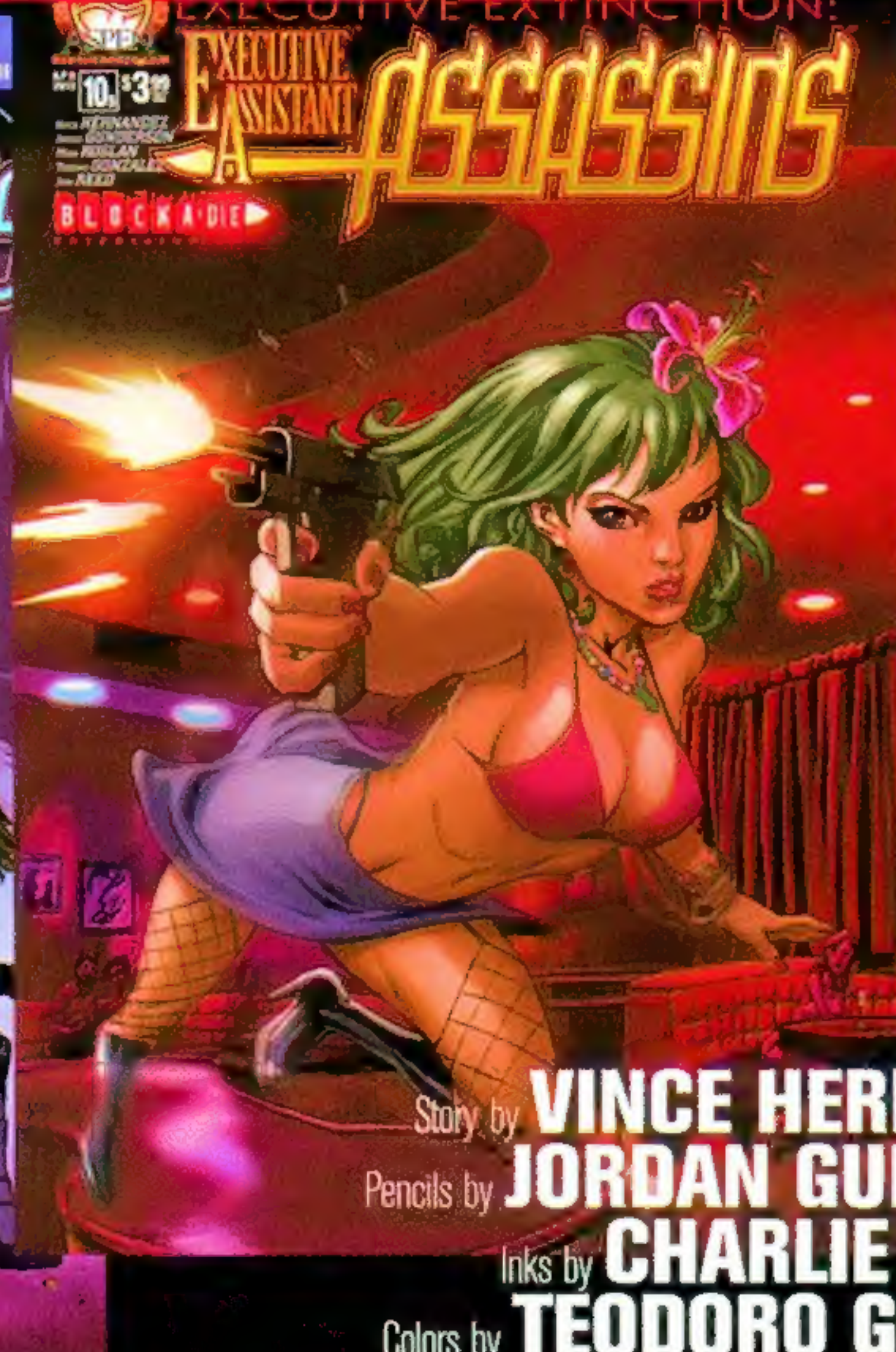
PART FOUR

- ☒ EA: Assassins #9
- ☐ EA: Iris (vol.3) #4

PART FIVE

- ☐ EA: Assassins #10
- ☐ EA: Iris (vol.3) #5

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT #10



Story by **VINCE HERNANDEZ**
Pencils by **JORDAN GUNDERSON**
Inks by **CHARLIE MOK**
Colors by **TEODORO GONZALEZ**



TARUTARU

novus

SCAN

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